

Message Text

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43

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 CIEP-02

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 FEA-02 FPC-01 H-03 INR-10

INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 OMB-01 PM-07 RSC-01 SAM-01

SCI-06 SPC-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00 PA-04 PRS-01

USIA-15 DRC-01 /172 W

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R 111904Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1900

INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

UNCLAS ASUNCION 0547

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, PFOR, PA, BR

SUBJECT: ADDITIONAL AGREEMENTS TO ITAIPU TREATY SIGNED

1. THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF BRAZIL AND PARAGUAY SIGNED ADDITIONAL AGREEMENTS TO THE ITAIPU TREATY IN ASUNCION FEBRUARY 11. TWO ADDITIONAL PROTOCOLS ESTABLISHED WORK AND SOCIAL SECURITY NORMS FOR THE BI-NATIONAL WORK FORCE THAT WILL BEGIN CONSTRUCTION ON THE MAMMOTH HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT LATE THIS YEAR. A THIRD AGREEMENT, EFFECTED BY AN EXCHANGE OF NOTES, SLIGHTLY MODIFIES TERMS FOR SALE OF ELECTRICITY IN PARAGUAY'S FAVOR.

2. ACCORDING TO AN EMBASSY SOURCE, CHANGES IN ANNEX C OF THE TREATY WILL BRING TERMS FOR THE SALE OF PARAGUAY'S EXCESS ELECTRICITY PRODUCED BY ITAIPU IN LINE WITH THE MORE FAVORABLE PROVISIONS IN THE ARGENTINE-PARAGUAYAN PACT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE YACYRETA PROJECT. THE LENGTH OF ELECTRICITY SALE CONTRACTS REPORTEDLY IS HALVED FROM 20 TO 10 YEARS AND PRICING IS SUBJECT TO AN ADJUSTABLE SCALE.

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3. REMARKS BY THE FOREIGN MINISTERS WERE PRO FORMA IN NATURE WITH BOTH STRESSING BRAZILIAN AND PARAGUAYAN COOPERATION, FRIENDSHIP AND ECONOMIC INTEGRATION. BRAZIL'S GIBSON BARBOZA INDICATED THAT NEGOTIATIONS WERE NOW COMPLETE AND THAT "FROM THIS DAY OUR GOVERNMENTS ARE EQUIPPED TO BEGIN THE CONSTRUCTION OF ITAIPU."

4. GIBSON BARBOZA ARRIVED EVENING OF FEBRUARY 10 AND SPENT LESS THAN 24 HOURS IN ASUNCION. IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE SIGNING CEREMONIES, HE CALLED ON PRESIDENT STROESSNER (REPORTEDLY TO EXTEND A FORMAL INVITATION TO PRESIDENT-ELECT GEISEL'S INAUGURATION) AND THEN DEPARTED FOR THE AIRPORT AND BRAZIL. RICHARDSON

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